

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of~~ A method comprising utilizing copolymers containing units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle, as leveling agents for textile dyeing and textile printing.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of~~ A method comprising utilizing graft polymers as ~~auxiliaries~~ an auxiliary for textile dyeing and textile printing, ~~wherefor~~ wherein at least one graft polymer is constructed from

a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and

polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally further comonomers B3, and said side chains B account for more than 35% by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of claim 1 or 2, wherefor~~ The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the auxiliaries for textile dyeing are selected from the group consisting of stripping agents, leveling agents and aftersoaping agents.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of either of claims 2 and~~ The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said polymeric grafting base A is a polyether.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Stripping agents~~ A stripping agent comprising at least one graft polymer constructed from a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally further comonomers B3, wherein said side chains B account for more than 35% by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 6 (Original): A process for stripping off-shade dyeings off textile materials, which comprises using a stripping agent comprising at least one graft polymer which contains units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Leveling agents~~ A leveling agent comprising at least one graft polymer constructed from a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally further comonomers B3, wherein said side chains B account for more than 35% by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Leveling agents~~ The leveling agent as claimed in claim 7, wherein at least one copolymer is a graft polymer.

Claim 9 (Original): A process for leveling dyeings on textile materials, which comprises using a leveling agent comprising at least one copolymer which contains units

derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein at least one copolymer is a graft polymer.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~Aftersoaping agents~~ An aftersoaping agent comprising at least one copolymer which contains units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~Aftersoaping agents~~ The aftersoaping agent as claimed in claim 11, wherein at least one copolymer is a graft polymer.

Claim 13 (Original): A process for afterclearing dyed or printed textile, which comprises using at least one copolymer containing units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 13, wherein at least one copolymer is a graft polymer.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein at least one graft polymer is constructed from

a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units,
and

polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 which each contain at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally further comonomers B3.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in claim 14 ~~or 15~~, wherein said side chains B account for a more than 35% by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 18 to 21~~ claim 14, wherein said polymeric grafting base A is a polyether.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 18 to 22~~ claim 14, which further comprises using at least one further component selected from complexing agents and nonionic surfactants.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 18 to 23~~ claim 14, operated at weakly acidic to neutral pH.